

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 019241

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 019241

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: SPRING EWG WORK PROGRAM

REFS: A. USNATO 382 (NOT*L); B. STATE 012480

1. FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO QUESTIONS IN PARA 3
USNATO 382.

A. WE CONTINUE TO PREFER COVERAGE IN AD-70 SPRING REVIEW
OF ALL SUPPORTING PROGRAMS, AS PER REF B, IN ORDER THAT WE
MAY SEE HOW WELL NATO IS WORKING TOGETHER. THIS WOULD
CALL FOR CONTRIBUTION BY THE APPROPRIATE NATO CIVIL
AUTHORITIES ON CRISIS MANAGEMENT, CIVIL PREPAREDNESS,
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PAGE 02 STATE 019241

COOPERATION IN LOGISTICS, AND PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING, IN

ADDITION TO THE MAJOR COVERAGE ON FORCE CAPABILITIES AND THE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO BE GIVEN TO COMMUNICATIONS, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND COOPERATION IN ARMAMENTS. AS NOTED PARA 1 REF B, WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO USE OF EXISTING REPORTS, PARTICULARLY FOR THOSE SUBJECTS REQUIRING SPECIAL ATTENTION.

B AND C. STATE 12480 WAS NOT MEANT TO IMPLY ANY PRIORITY AS BETWEEN AD-70 PROGRAM AND CONTINUED CONSIDERATION OF BASIC ISSUES. BOTH CONTINUE TO BE IMPORTANT; EACH HAS ITS OWN PURPOSES. THE AD-70 SPRING DEFENSE PROGRAM REVIEW (FORCE CAPABILITIES AND SUPPORTING PROGRAMS) SERVES A MANAGEMENT PURPOSE OF A BROADLY-BASED ANNUAL REVIEW OF

NATO'S TOTAL DEFENSE ACTIVITY. IT SERVES AS THE BACKGROUND FOR EMPHASIS, IN BASIC ISSUES, ON CERTAIN CRITICAL FORCE IMPROVEMENTS. NEVERTHELESS, IF PRIORITIES MUST BE ESTABLISHED, WE CONSIDER THE BASIC ISSUE EFFORT, WHICH GOES TO THE CORE OF THE AD-70 RECOMMENDATIONS, OF HIGHER PRIORITY THAN COVERING ALL THE SUPPORTING PROGRAMS IN AD-70 SPRING REVIEW.

2. FYI. WITH REFERENCE TO PARA 3E OF DECISION SHEET IN REF A, WE FULLY SUPPORT THE NATO EFFORT TO DERIVE LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE MIDDLE EAST WAR. SUBJECT TO RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM OF RELEASABILITY TO NATO, WE EXPECT TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THIS EFFORT BY MARCH 1 WHICH WILL SUPPORT THE STUDY OF ADDITIONAL ISSUES SUGGESTED BY SECRETARY SCHLESINGER. END FYI.

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